

REMARKS

Applicant hereby traverses the outstanding objections and rejections, and requests reconsideration and withdrawal in light of the amendments and remarks contained herein. Claims 2, 10, 14, and 18 have been canceled without prejudice. Claims 1, 3-9, 11-13, 15-17, and 19-22 are pending in this application.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1, 6, 12, and 17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kitchin et al. ('702, hereinafter Kitchin) in view of European Patent Publication EP 1093310 to Ahmadi (hereinafter, Ahmadi).

Claims 1, 6, 12, and 17 have been amended with the subject matter of now canceled claims 2, 10, 14, and 18, respectively. As claims 2, 10, 14, and 18 are not subject to the rejection of record, Applicant respectfully asserts that this rejection be withdrawn.

Applicant notes that in paragraph 3, the Examiner has stated that claims 6, 12, and 17 are essentially similar to claim 1. Applicant respectfully notes that this is incorrect, as claims 1, 6, 12, and 17 have different scopes and limitations.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1-5 and 12-16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over European Patent Publication EP 1093310 to Ahmadi (hereinafter *Ahmadi*) in view of US Patent 5,331,589 to Bennett (hereinafter *Bennett*).

Claims 6 and 17 are rejected as being unpatentable over a combination of *Ahmadi* and *Bennett* and US patent number 6,549,587 to Li (hereinafter *Li*).

Claims 7, 9-11, 18, and 20-22 are rejected as being unpatentable over a combination of *Ahmadi*, *Bennett*, *Li* and US patent number 5,532,950 to Moses (hereinafter *Moses*).

Claims 8 and 19 are rejected as being unpatentable over a combination of *Ahmadi*, *Bennett*, *Li* and US patent number 6,104,803 to Weser (hereinafter *Weser*).

The prior arguments with respect to the Examiner's the rejections specified above submitted by Applicant in the Amendment filed December 16, 2003, are believed to still be applicable to the above rejection of record and are, accordingly, incorporated herein. For the sake of brevity, those arguments will not be repeated herein. However, Applicant would like to make additional comments in connection with those arguments and therefore, for the convenience of the Examiner, some portion of those arguments may be repeated below.

In response to the arguments, the Examiner has stated that Ahmadi or the combination of Ahmadi and Bennett teaches training an ANN with a realistic set of inputs. The Examiner further states that the set of inputs are required to be an ASDI standard.

Applicant notes that Ahmadi does not teach that the set of inputs are required to be an ASDI standard. Furthermore, Applicant notes that the other references of record are not relied upon as providing this teaching. Consequently, there is no support in the rejections of record for this assertion by the Examiner. Thus, for this assertion to be proper, then the Examiner is required to modify the rejections of record by providing a teaching source of this assertion, and providing motivation for making the modification.

Until such a modification has been made, the Examiner has not provided a prima facie case of obviousness for the above stated rejections. Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the above stated rejections of record.

Conclusion

Applicant notes that in various sections of the Office Action, the Examiner has stated that various claims are similar, e.g. in section 3, the Examiner has stated that claims 6, 12, and 17 are essentially similar to claim 1. Applicant respectfully notes that this is incorrect, as the claims have different scopes and limitations, and thus are not similar.

In view of the above, each of the presently pending claims in this application is believed to be in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to pass this application to issue.

Application No.: 09/859,687

Docket No.: 10991539-1

Applicant believes no fee is due with this response. However, if a fee is due, please charge Deposit Account No. 08-2025, under Order No. 10991539-1, from which the undersigned is authorized to draw.

Dated: June 1, 2004

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as Express Mail, Airbill No. EV482734620US, in an envelope addressed to: MS Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date shown below.

Dated: June 1, 2004

Signature: 

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Respectfully submitted,

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